

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 COLOMB 01090 280651Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09
OES-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 AGRE-00 STR-04 /053 W
-----280654Z 004808 /12

R 280620Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6992

UNCLAS COLOMBO 1090

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, EFIN, CE

SUBJ: INCREASED FREIGHT RATES

1. EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, FREIGHT RATES ON ALL COMMODITIES SHIPPED ON CEYLON-CONTINENTAL CONFERENCE WILL BE INCREASED 12.5 PERCENT. ON SAME DATE, RATES ON CEYLON-UK-EIRE CONFERENCE WILL GO UP 12.5 PERCENT ON TEA AND 15 PERCENT ON ALL OTHER COMMODITIES. ON JANUARY 1, 1978, RATES UNDER CEYLON-STRAITS-HONG KONG-JAPAN CONFERENCE WILL BE RAISED 20 PERCENT WITH EXCEPTION OF REFRIGERATED CARGOS WHICH WILL NOT BE AFFECTED FOR PRESENT.

2. WITH REGARD TO RATE INCREASES UNDER FIRST TWO CONFERENCES ABOVE, A PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, AVIATION, AND TOURISM STATED THAT A DELEGATION LED BY MR. L. C. HUDSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE, HELD DISCUSSIONS REGARDING FREIGHT INCREASES WITH OFFICIALS OF THE CENTRAL FREIGHT BUREAU OF SRI LANKA DURING DECEMBER LAST YEAR. NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED AT THAT TIME AS PROPOSED INCREASE OF 31.5 PERCENT TO AND FROM UK AND 23.2 PERCENT TO AND FROM CONTINENT WERE REJECTED BY BUREAU. AFTER SEVERAL MORE DISCUSSIONS, CONFERENCE FINALLY ACCEPTED NEW RATES PROPOSED BY FREIGHT BUREAU. LAST RATE INCREASE WAS ON JANUARY 1, 1975, AMOUNTING TO 12.5 PERCENT ON ALL COMMODITIES.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 COLOMB 01090 280651Z

3. COMMENT. AFTER RESISTING HIGHER FREIGHT RATES FOR SEVERAL MONTHS, IT SURPRISING THAT GSL APPROVED RATE HIKE AT TIME FINANCE MINISTER IS TRYING TO REDUCE COST OF IMPORTS. BASIC PURPOSE OF MARCH 12 RUPEE REVALUATION OF 20 PERCENT WAS TO TAX EXPORT SECTOR IN ORDER TO SUBSIDIZE IMPORTS ON EVE OF GENERAL ELECTIONS DUE THIS SUMMER. HIGHER FREIGHT RATES WILL

TEND TO ERODE BENEFITS OF REVALUATION ON IMPORT PRICES AND WILL
ADD TO COST OF SRI LANKA'S EXPORTS.
REED

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FREIGHT RATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977COLOMB01090
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770105-0516
Format: TEL
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770317/aaaaaoco.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b4e939b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2980530
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INCREASED FREIGHT RATES
TAGS: EWWT, EFIN, CE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b4e939b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009